

# 2011 Winter Newsletter

Venice Shores Subdivision  
Harrison Twp, MI

## Venice Shores Property Owners Association

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**DATE:** February 7th, 2010  
**TIME:** 7:30PM (Doors open @ 7:00 pm)  
**PLACE:** Mariner's Boat Club  
Bar available  
31970 North River Road  
Harrison Twp, MI 48045

### AGENDA

- Welcome
- Board Member Elections
- Committee News
  - ◇ Building, Canal, Civic Affairs, Maintenance, Welcoming
  - ◇ Garage Sale
  - ◇ Fishing Contest
  - ◇ Board Appreciation Dinner
- Old Business
- Questions & New Issues
- Adjourn

### VSPWA OFFICERS

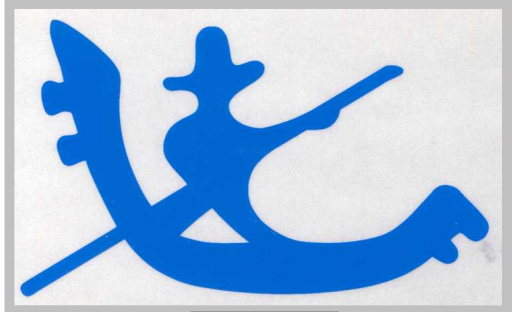
**President** John Gabor  
783-8916

**Vice President** Jim Senstock  
463-9150

**Treasurer** Jim Wietecha  
468-4289

**Recording Secretary** Phil DeVergilio  
468-5457

**Corresponding Secretary** Doug McDougal  
463-5112



### VSPWA COMMITTEES—CURRENT CHAIRS & MEMBERS

**BUILDING:** *Bill Struhar, Chair* 468-7169

Members: Bob Piltz; Ed Drapeau; Mike DiVito; Dick Baranski

**CANAL:** *Mike DiVito, Chair* 465-3029

Members: Tom Bane; Scott Bawol; Mike Beck; Merv Champine; Scott Hall; Bill Peters; Doug Porter

**MAINTENANCE:** *Mike Rice, Chair* 465-4253

Members: Kevin Kollmorgen; Mark Ososki; Don Pryjmak; Mark Wright

**CIVIC AFFAIRS:** *Jim Senstock, Chair* 463-9150

Members: Mike DiVito

**WELCOMING:** *Barb Marten\*, Chair* 468-5951

Members: Bob Piltz; Doug Porter; John Skrzycki; Ken Koch\*

**EVENTS:** *None*

Members: Bill Struhar; Rosanne Ososki\*; Ginny Porter\*; Jeannie Gabor\*;  
Paul Kurtz\*; Barb Marten\*

\* *Non-Board Committee Members*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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## Venice Shores General Business Updates

### **NOVEMBER 2010 GENERAL MEETING RECAP**

#### **2011 Dues and Assessments**

The 2011 VSPOA Dues & Assessments were approved by a majority of those residents present and voting at the November 2010 General Membership Meeting. The total amount of dues/assessment did not increase over 2010CY. The breakdown is as follows:

#### **2011 DUES/ASSESSMENTS:**

General Venice Shores Dues:	\$115
Weed Control Assessment:	\$ 40
Snow Removal Assessment:	\$ 25
Canal Maintenance Assessment:	\$ 20

**TOTAL:** **\$200 per lot**

The 2011 Association Dues/Assessments are due **March 1st** and are deemed delinquent if not received before June 15th. The enclosed payment coupon is specific to your property. Please verify all information is correct. Contact Jim Wietecha @ 468-4289 with any questions. Make check payable to VSPOA & MAIL payment coupon & check to:

Jim Wietecha, VSPOA Treasurer  
31375 N. River Rd  
Harrison Township, MI 48045

To ensure your payment is credited properly, please DO NOT drop off envelope with payment in Jim's mailbox. **Payments must be made by mail!** Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

#### **VSPOA By-laws—Proposed Changes**

The proposed changes to the VSPOA By-laws were defeated by a majority of those residents present and voting at the November 2010 General Membership Meeting. What this means is that the current by-laws remain in effect as written. For a copy of these by-laws, please log on to the Venice Shores website at [www.veniceshores.org](http://www.veniceshores.org). Click on Documents, then select By-laws.

#### **VS Deed Restrictions**

Venice Shores is a Deed Restricted community. The board has policies in place to apply restrictions uniformly across all properties in our subdivision. When planning improvements or additions to your property, please check the deed restrictions to ensure compliance (available on the VS website). If you have questions about what is or is not acceptable, please contact the Chair or any member of the Building Committee. Remember that the VS Deed Restrictions were enacted and remain in place to add value to our community as a whole.

#### **2011 Weed Treatment Schedule**

Weed treatment was approved for the 2011 season. This is a reminder that the first of three weed treatments is tentatively scheduled to be applied between April 20 & May 10, weather dependent. This application will take place before the next newsletter is published, although each property will receive a posted notice prior to treatment as in the past. The treatment also covers empty boat wells, but remember that the DNR restricts treatment in certain areas of Canal 5 (along MacRay's wetland). Please contact Mike DiVito, Canal Chairperson, if you have questions.

#### **VSPOA Board Member—Dick Baranski**

Dick Baranski recently suffered a stroke & is currently undergoing rehab in a facility in Sterling Heights. The VSPOA board has sent flowers & well wishes to Dick from the entire VS Community. If you wish to send individual wishes or visit, please see the facility information below. If planning to visit, I recommend calling first to request an appropriate time as to not interfere with his rehab schedule. Our very best wishes to Dick.

Richard Baranski  
Evangelical Home  
14900 Shoreline Dr. Room 225  
Sterling Heights, MI 48313  
Phone: 568.247.4700

## Venice Shores Community News

### Venice Shores Community Safety

Venice Shores' prides itself on being a safe community—in fact, crime in our little enclave is well below the county average. However, we must remain diligent to keep it that way. Did you know that community safety organizers agree that the most important element in keeping an area safe is outdoor lighting? The Venice Shores community was designed with a minimal number of streetlamps, but we can each do our part for our personal properties. A simple set of lights on a dark driveway or on either side of a garage can help eliminate accidents while deterring crime, as well as add style & value to your home. Light fixtures come with a variety of energy-efficient options, including programmable timers to turn lights on at a specific time of day, sensors which detect motion for activation, or lights that illuminate an area from dusk to dawn. A thief is less likely to target an area if the path to the crime is illuminated. Please consider following these tips to keep VS a low crime area:



- ✿ Illuminate your front driveway from dusk to dawn with energy efficient bulbs
- ✿ Install motion sensor lights on front porches, rear decks, or in back yards
- ✿ Lock doors, even if you're home—and keep front door closed if everyone is in the back yard
- ✿ Keep garage door openers out of sight in vehicles parked in driveways—and lock car doors
- ✿ Get to know your neighbors—keep an eye out for each other's property (especially snowbirds)
- ✿ Report all suspicious activity to the Macomb County Sheriff's department @ **(586) 469-5151**

Also note that our Community Watch signs will be erected by springtime. Let's all do our part to keep VS safe!

### Food, Fun, and Friendship for Seniors (Transportation too!)

One of the great things about Venice Shores is the wide range in age of our residents. We have newborns and grandparents and everything in between. Sometimes we tend to forget that we have widows & widowers who may find themselves at home, alone & bored, especially during the winter months when we tend to be cooped up inside. Well, a solution is right in our own community! Did you know that Harrison Township offers a wide variety of services & activities for the 55 & over crowd? The Tucker Senior Center on Ballard has daily, weekly, & monthly activities, plus special events throughout the year. For example, the Macomb County Senior Nutrition Program offers lunch daily at 11:30 am. The cost is a donation of \$3.00, or whatever you can afford. Can't stay for lunch? Pop in for donuts, coffee & a morning chat. You can car pool with some of the other folks in the neighborhood, or call for *free* transportation. DIAL-A-RIDE is available for seniors 60+ from 9:00am—2:00pm Mon-Fri. All you need to do is call in advance—you'll be picked up at your door & delivered to your destination! Below is a list of Tucker Senior Center's events & contact information for your convenience. Give it a try!

#### Tucker Senior Center:

**586.466.1498**

**Mon & Fri—8:00 am to 12:30 pm**

**Tue / Wed / Thur—8:00 am to 3:00 pm**

#### DIAL-A-RIDE:

**586.466.1497**

**Mon thru Fri—9:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**48 hours advanced notice**

#### Daily—Lunch:

**Mon thru Fri—11:30 am daily**

**Macomb County Senior Nutrition Program**

**\$3.00 donation**

#### Cards:



**Pinochle**

**Tues and Thur—1:00 pm / \$1.00**

**Euchre**

**Thursdays—1:00 pm / \$1.00**

#### Friendship Club:

**Every Wednesday**

**- Coffee, donuts, lunch and bingo / \$1.00 card**

**- Special events throughout the year**

#### Casino Trip:

**2nd and 4th Friday of each month**



# Venice Shores Committee News

## events committee

The 2010 Annual Christmas Decorating Contest was a big hit, with over 118 VS homes participating! Board member Bill Struhar and his lovely bride Carolyn graciously hosted this year's gathering. Esteemed judges included VSPOA board members Phil DeVergilio, Mike DiVito, and Bob Piltz. So without further ado, the winners were as follows:



**Specialty Awards:**

- President's Award—31000 San Juan  
The Prevolarakis'
- Elegance Award—41465 Bayhaven  
Thomas & Marilyn Altobelli
- Santa's 1st Stop—41311 Windmill  
Brandon & Kelly Kelly
- Santa's Runway—41459 Gloca Mora  
Bill & Carolyn Struhar

**Street Awards:**

- 31175 North River Road
- 41501 Bayhaven
- 31035 San Juan
- 41633 Windmill
- 41430 Clairpointe
- 41330 Gloca Mora

- Vince Cipriano
- Jim & Patti Lijan
- Kevin & Dawn Paton
- Don & Sharon Schaffner
- Mike & Sharon Carley
- Jaysun & Erin Barr

Each winner received a gift card to a local eating establishment (River Rat for Specialty Awards & Carlos Pizza for Street Awards) as well as community recognition via front yard signage, announcing their award! Once again, congratulations to the winners of 2010's contest!

\* \* \* \* \*

The Venice Shores community is still looking for an overall Events Chairperson to serve for 2011CY. If you are interested in filling this prestigious position, please contact John Gabor. But all is not lost, as several individuals have already come forward to volunteer to organize single events. Events planned for the 2011CY include:



- |                           |                    |               |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Board Appreciation Dinner | April 28th         | Jeannie Gabor |
| Garage Sale               | April 29/30; May 1 | Barb Marten   |
| Fishing Derby             | To be announced    | Mike DiVito   |
| Boat Outing               | Tentative—July     | Jeannie Gabor |

Look for flyers as dates near, and more information of later events will be included in the Spring/Summer Newsletter, published in late May.

## welcoming committee

Welcome to all new residents of the Venice Shores community! If you are new to Venice Shores & have not yet been welcomed, please call the Chair of our Welcoming Committee—Barb Marten—at 586-468-5951. A member of the Welcoming Committee will arrange to meet at a time convenient for you. You'll receive a welcome gift that includes a neighborhood sticker for your vehicle & VSPOA burgee for your boat. Plus—you'll meet someone new! And by all means, please come to the VSPOA board meetings to see what's new and what's in store. Welcome to the neighborhood!



**FEB 2011**

*Happy Valentine's Day*

- ◆ Groundhog Day—Feb 2nd
- ◆ VSPOA Board Mtg—Feb 7th
- ◆ Valentine's Day—Feb 14th

**MAR 2011**



- ◆ VSPOA Board Mtg—Mar 7th
- ◆ Mardi Gras—Mar 8th
- ◆ DST Begins—Mar 13th
- ◆ St Patrick's Day—Mar 17th
- ◆ 1st Day of Spring—Mar 20th

**APR 2011**



*Happy Easter!*

- ◆ VS Board Mtg—Apr 4th
- ◆ Easter—April 24th
- ◆ Board Appreciation—Apr 28th
- ◆ VSPOA Garage Sale—Apr 29/30 and May 1st

## Just for FUN!

### New Year's Resolutions

By now, most of have made—and broken—at least one New Year's Resolution. Ever wonder why we even bother? Surveys show that over 90% of New Year's resolutions are broken within one week (those that keep resolutions are probably too busy keeping them to respond to a survey!). I thought it might be fun to look at some of the more common resolutions people make, and witty responses to them. Do you see yourself here?

#### 5—Improve family relationships

\* Did you know human beings are the only creatures that allow their children to come back home? (Bill Cosby)

#### 4—Do something nice for someone else today

\* Start off every day with a simple smile and just get it over with! (W.C.Fields)

#### 3—Only shop for bargains

\* A bargain is something you can't use at a price you can't resist. (F.P.Jones)

#### 2—Drink less alcohol

\* Unfortunately, wine improves with age. The older I get, the more I like it! (Unknown)

#### 1—Enjoy life more

\* Just remember, if the world didn't suck, we'd all fall off... (Unknown)

### Cool Tidbits & Useless Facts



- ❖ You are born with 300 bones, but when you get to be an adult, you only have 206
- ❖ The first toilet tank ever seen on television was on *Leave it to Beaver*
- ❖ Girls have more taste buds than boys
- ❖ Blueberry Jelly Bellies® were created especially for Ronald Reagan
- ❖ The average person uses the bathroom six times per day
- ❖ The first couple to be shown in bed together on prime time TV was Fred & Wilma Flintstone

### Collective Nouns

Collective Nouns are words used to describe a group of objects, most notably, a group of animals. Match the collective noun with the object it describes. Answers on front page.

- |                |           |
|----------------|-----------|
| 1. GNATS       | a. MURDER |
| 2. FOXES       | b. FLOAT  |
| 3. BUTTERFLIES | c. CLOUD  |
| 4. CROWS       | d. SKULK  |
| 5. MONKEYS     | e. RABBLE |
| 6. HIPPOPOTAMI | f. CIRCUS |
| 7. CROCODILES  | g. BLOAT  |

**VSPOA**  
**Newsletter**  
**Editor-in-Chief**

**Jeannie Gabor**

Contact  
[jagabor@att.net](mailto:jagabor@att.net)

to request content or include  
your special interest items!  
Newsletter is published three  
times per year

Winter  
Spring / Summer  
Fall



Enjoy  
Winter!!

